

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re Application of: |) | |
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| | : | Examiner: Unassigned |
| TOMOO AKIZUKI, ET AL. |) | |
| | : | Group Art Unit: Unassigned |
| Application No.: 10/720,215 |) | |
| | : | |
| Filed: November 25, 2003 |) | |
| | : | |
| For: FIXING APPARATUS, AND IMAGE |) | January 5, 2004 |
| FORMING APPARATUS | : | |
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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of the listed Japanese reference is also enclosed.

A concise explanation of relevance for the non-English document may be found at page 7 of the specification.

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CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants

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| FORM PTO 1449 (modified) | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017736 | APPLICATION NO. 10/720,215 | | | | |
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| U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) | | APPLICANT TOMOO AKIZUKI, ET AL. | | | | | |
| (Use several sheets if necessary) Submitted to the PTO: January 5, 2004 | | FILING DATE 10/720,215 | | GROUP Unassigned | | | |
| | U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| | | | , | | | | |
| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | 3 | 5,420,679 | 05/30/1995 | Goto et al. | 355 | 285 | |
| JAN 0 5 200 | 14 35 | 5,745,833 | 04/28/1998 | Abe et al. | 399 | 330 | |
| TA TRADENA | RITOS/ | 6,049,691 | 04/11/2000 | Abe et al. | 399 | 330 | |
| | | 6,347,201 | 02/12/2002 | Sano et al. | 399 | 67 | |
| | | 6,383,628 | 05/07/2002 | Abe et al. | 428 | 334 | |
| 30.2 | | 6,430,386 | 08/06/2002 | Okubo et al. | 399 | 328 | |
| | | 6,556,806 | 04/29/2003 | Tsuruya et al. | 399 | 322 | • |
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| | | | FC | DREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | 1 | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT |
| | | 11-15303 | 01/22/1999 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | | | | | | | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | |
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| EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED | | | | | | | |

| Sheet_1_ | of _1_ |
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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